

1 **SECURE ANONYMOUS VERIFICATION, GENERATION AND/OR PROOF OF**
2 **OWNERSHIP OF ELECTRONIC RECEIPTS**

3 **ABSTRACT**

4 A method, apparatus and system is provided for secure
5 anonymous proof of ownership of electronic receipts, wherein
6 a sender sends a first message including a transaction
7 request and referencing an owner of a receipt to be
8 generated to a first addressee. The first addressee returns
9 a signed receipt including the reference and details for
10 what the receipt has been given. The sender sends a signed
11 second message including the receipt to a second addressee.
12 The second addressee obtains a public signature verification
13 key on the basis of the reference to the owner of the
14 receipt and authenticates the second message. A major
15 advantage of the invention is that in a pseudonymous or
16 anonymous transaction based system it is now possible to
17 remain anonymous or pseudonymous when presenting electronic
18 receipts, while securely proving ownership of the receipt.